

REMARKS

This is in full and timely response to the non-final Office Action mailed on May 19, 2004. Reexamination in light of the amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-9 are currently pending in this application, with claims 1 and 7 being independent. No new matter has been added.

Allowable subject matter

Appreciation is expressed for the indication that claims 1-9 contain allowable subject matter.

Drawing objections

The Office Action requests corrected drawings. In response, corrected drawings are provided along with this amendment. Withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

Claim objections

While not conceding the propriety of these objections, and in order to further the prosecution of the application, claims 1 and 7 have been amended as suggested. Appreciation is for the Examiner's suggestions. Withdrawal of this objection and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112

While not conceding the propriety of these objections, and in order to further the prosecution of the application, claims 1 and 7 have been amended.. Withdrawal of this rejection and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, all the claims now pending in the present application are allowable, and the present application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable



reexamination and reconsideration of the application in light of the amendments and remarks is courteously solicited.

If the Examiner has any comments or suggestions that could place this application in even better form, the Examiner is requested to telephone Brian K. Dutton, Reg. No. 47,255, at 202-955-8753.

If any fee is required or any overpayment made, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee or credit the overpayment to Deposit Account # 18-0013.

Dated: August 19, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By  

David T. Nikaido

Registration No.: 22,663

Brian K. Dutton

Registration No.: 47,255

RADER, FISHMAN & GRAUER PLLC

1233 20th Street, N.W.

Suite 501

Washington, DC 20036

(202) 955-3750

Attorneys for Applicant

Attachments: ABSTRACT, Drawings-REPLACEMENT SHEET